

the creation for the creation of the National Commission to examine the various causes of violent radicalization and homegrown terrorism in order to propose concrete and meaningful recommendations and legislative strategies in order to alleviate these threats. It also establishes a Center of Excellence for the Prevention of Radicalization and Home Grown Terrorism that will study the social, criminal, political, psychological and economic roots of the problem as well as provide homeland security officials across the government with suggestions for preventing radicalization and home grown terrorism.

Furthermore, it requires our homeland security officials to thoroughly examine the experiences of other nations that have experienced homegrown terrorism so that our government might learn from those experiences. As such, H.R. 1955 does more than merely address the current situation with regard to homegrown terrorism but also works to identify the causes behind the problem and address them as well.

I strongly urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this important legislation.

RECOGNIZING THE 62ND ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNITED NATIONS

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 24, 2007

Mr. POE. Madam Speaker, today we recognize the 62nd anniversary of the United Nations. The United Nations was founded in the aftermath of the Second World War. Leaders across the world came together to form this international organization with the hope that nations united in purpose might never again have to face the devastating consequences of a third World War. Since its inception, the mission of the United Nations has been focused on advancing the cause of fundamental human rights around the world. It is a noble cause.

Unfortunately, the lofty goals of this institution have been blemished by a record of past actions which challenge the U.N.'s very existence.

This year, Madam Speaker, I am serving as one of two Congressional Delegates to the United Nations. As a representative of the people I would be remiss, on this United Nations Day, if I did not address some of the concerns that Americans have with the United Nations. In a poll conducted last year by political consultant and pollster, Frank Luntz, 71 percent of Americans agreed that the U.N. is no longer effective and need to be reformed. In addition, the poll found that 75 percent of the participants agreed that the United Nations is no longer effective and needs to be held accountable. Most telling, for the first time since the U.N. was founded, a majority of Americans, 57 percent, believe that if the U.N. cannot be reformed it needs to be gotten rid of all together and replaced.

Like most Americans, Madam Speaker, I'm concerned with the ineffectiveness of the United Nations. I'm concerned with the anti-Semitic factions that exist within the U.N. I'm concerned with its hypocritical human rights record—claiming to preserve human rights, while not holding some of the world's worst human rights violators responsible. I'm con-

cerned with the corruption of U.N. officials and mismanagement of U.N. programs. And I'm concerned with the United Nations inability to actually take a lead in fighting the threat of global terrorism.

If the United Nations expects the United States to support its mission, it had better take the concerns of the American people seriously and implement the reforms that are necessary to gain the trust of the American public.

And that's just the way it is.

TRIBUTE TO SHIRLEY L. JOHNSON

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 24, 2007

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Shirley L. Johnson, a remarkable woman who has distinguished herself with a long and impressive record of dedicated public service and advocacy for human rights and social justice.

A resident of Rockville, Maryland, Shirley worked for the U.S. Public Health Service where, for many years, she served as Deputy Director of the Department of Medicine. At the time of her retirement, she was Director of the Office of Program Development, Bureau of Health Professions. Her tenure at the government health agency spanned 37 years and was highlighted by numerous awards, including the Public Health Service Superior Service Award, the highest public service level award to be granted to a civilian.

Since her retirement, Shirley has worn many hats and taken volunteerism to new heights. An outspoken champion of health care for the disenfranchised, Shirley was appointed to the Montgomery County Commission on Health and served as its Commissioner from 1995–2000. She also served on the Board of the Primary Care Coalition of Montgomery County, a charitable organization committed to bringing high quality, accessible, and efficient health care services to low-income, uninsured county residents.

Combining her concern for public health with her knowledge of the governmental process, Shirley testified frequently before the Montgomery County Council and the Maryland General Assembly, urging lawmakers to pass legislation to ban smoking in public places. From 1997–98, she served on the board of directors of Smoke Free Maryland and as co-chair of the Montgomery County Smoke Free Coalition.

In the civil rights arena, Shirley challenged local officials to eliminate prejudice and injustice and lobbied persistently for fair housing to correct the discriminatory practices of landlords in Montgomery County.

Education always has been high on Shirley's agenda. This cum laude graduate of Howard University has worked tirelessly for scholarships for minority students and has spent countless hours teaching and promoting economic empowerment concepts to at-risk students in public schools.

An active Democrat, Shirley has been president of the Montgomery County District 19 Democratic Club for the past 5 years and serves as chair of Precinct 8–03 in Rockville. She counts as one of her proudest achievements her efforts to establish the African

American Democratic Club of Montgomery County, where she served as first vice president.

Shirley is a 1996 graduate of Leadership Montgomery, a program designed to train individuals to be effective leaders in the Montgomery County community. From 2000–06, she served on the Montgomery County Commission for Women, a resource and an important voice for women throughout the Washington metropolitan area.

In 2002, Shirley was inducted into the Montgomery County Human Rights Hall of Fame. Two years later, she was selected as the Volunteer of the Year by the Montgomery County Democratic Central Committee. In 2005, she was named a "Woman of Achievement" by the Montgomery County Business & Professional Women and received the "Community Services Award" from the Black Business and Professional Women's Clubs, Inc., the "Civil Rights Award" from the Montgomery County, Maryland Branch of the NAACP, and the "Distinguished Leadership Award" from the Community Leadership Association.

Madam Speaker, Shirley L. Johnson exemplifies community service. She is an individualist and an idealist who believes in equal opportunity for all men and women. She cares deeply about the quality of life in her community and is a model to others of what one person can accomplish through commitment, hard work and perseverance.

On Sunday, October 28, 2007, Shirley Johnson will be honored at an event at the Bauer Drive Community Center in Rockville, Maryland. Referred to by her friends as "One Classy Lady," Shirley will be "roasted, toasted, and appreciated." I am proud that she is my constituent and am pleased to add my praises to the chorus of family, colleagues and friends who will gather to salute her.

TRIBUTE TO ALABAMA POLITICAL JOURNALIST BOB INGRAM, 1926–2007

HON. TERRY EVERETT

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 24, 2007

Mr. EVERETT. Madam Speaker, I rise in tribute to a man who for a generation symbolized great class and professionalism in Alabama political journalism, Bob Ingram.

Alabamians statewide, and, in particular, in the political and journalism communities, were saddened to learn of the passing of Bob Ingram on October 18 at the age of 81. To all those who knew him, Bob was an unquestioned authority on State politics. He possessed a comfortable familiarity with the historical and personal side of Alabama government and the key players who shaped it going back some 6 decades. He was unequalled in his political wisdom because he was a witness to and participant in government. He covered our State through both tough and brighter times but he never lost his love for Alabama and its often colorful political figures.

Bob began his career as a reporter for the Cherokee Herald in his hometown of Centre. His mother, the town librarian, instilled in him a passion for writing which not only pointed him on his way to a remarkable journalism career, but also to authoring several insightful books on the Alabama political scene.

A World War II Marine Corps veteran, reporter for the Montgomery Advertiser, writer of a statewide political column for nearly 50 years, State Finance Director for Governor Albert Brewer, and respected television political commentator in central and southeast Alabama—Bob Ingram was a man of many talents, unified by his love of politics.

There were no sacred cows with Bob's political commentary. That's why we trusted him. You knew his opinions were well-researched and from the heart.

From Big Jim Folsom to Gordon Persons, Patterson, Wallace, Brewer, James, Hunt, Baxley, Siegelman, Riley—he knew them all. Whatever occurred in Alabama politics, you wanted to get Bob's thoughts. He also brought touches of grace, humor, and humility to his commentary—always realizing the pressures and vicissitudes of human nature in the political arena.

Thank you, Bob, for your love of Alabama and her political institutions. Your indelible mark will be felt as strongly as any public servant. And that's the way we see it.

RECOGNIZING NANCY BERRY FOR
BEING NAMED TO USA TODAY'S
2007 ALL-USA TEACHER TEAM

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 24, 2007

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Madam Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, it is an honor for me to rise today to recognize Nancy Berry for being named to the USA Today's 2007 All-USA Teacher Team.

Nancy Berry is a first grade teacher at Liza Jackson Preparatory School, a charter school in Fort Walton Beach, Florida. She has been an educator for 34 years, which includes five years as a principal.

As the USA Today panel sifted through hundreds of nominations, they judged the teachers on how well they identify and address their students' needs and the impact they have on students and learning. A parent of a former student, Dawn Fisher, was so impressed with Mrs. Berry that she nominated her for this prestigious distinction. Only 20 teachers nationwide were chosen.

Each year Mrs. Berry welcomes her students to "Berryland USA: A Place Where Children Love to Learn." She is known for her gentle encouragement, individualized attention and a plastic, heat-reactive fish to make learning a "self-fulfilling prophecy" for her first-graders. On the first day of class she brings out the fish and tells the children that if the fish curls up in their hand then they are smart, worthy and good. "Children have to have concrete ways of seeing that they are smart or are able to be successful," she says.

Through her hard work and dedication in the field of education, the impact she has had on her students and the difference she has made in their lives has proven her to be among the great teachers of the nation. We are honored and proud to have her as one of our own.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I am proud to recognize Nancy Berry on this outstanding achievement for her exemplary contribution to the education of our children.

EXPLANATION OF MISSED ROLL
CALL VOTE NO. 995

HON. TIMOTHY WALBERG

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 24, 2007

Mr. WALBERG. Madam Speaker, I rise today in order to offer an explanation of having missed rollcall vote number 995 earlier today. I missed this vote because I was visiting wounded warriors at Walter Reed Army Medical Center. I enjoy the opportunity to visit with soldiers from my district, today visiting soldiers from Adrian and Jackson. I believe it is our duty as elected representatives to see to it our soldiers are receiving the proper care and resources needed for their recovery.

Madam Speaker, whereas I missed this vote today, I wish for my constituents to know I did not miss this vote in haste. Rather, I was seeing to the needs of these brave soldiers who represent the best America has to offer. As an avid outdoorsman and conservation I supported the Motion to Recommit H.R. 1483 and, had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

ON THE AUDUBON OHIO URBAN
CONSERVATION CREW SUMMER
CAP AT THE ROCKEFELLER
PARK GREENHOUSE IN CLEVELAND

HON. STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 24, 2007

Mrs. JONES of Ohio. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Audubon Ohio Urban Conservation Crew Summer Cap at the Rockefeller Park Greenhouse in Cleveland. The Ohio program of the National Audubon Society is working hard to ensure that children in the central city have the opportunity to connect with nature and, in doing so, improve both their educational achievement and their sense of community and self-esteem.

During the recent August recess I had the good fortune to visit the Ohio program of the National Audubon society which is also a program in my own district. The program, a free summer camp for neighborhood children ages 8 to 11, is known as the Urban Conservation Crew. Through this program, Audubon Ohio, in less than five weeks, has succeeded in developing a group of budding scientists who have mastered the fine points of bird identification and behavior, focusing on the birds and plants of their own neighborhood.

Audubon Ohio chose as its location for the camp the Rockefeller Park Greenhouse. The Greenhouse is located in the heart of Cleveland's historic Glenville neighborhood. Owned and operated by the City of Cleveland, the Greenhouse's official function is to develop plants for indoor and outdoor use at other city properties. But the facility includes classroom space, extensive gardens (including a community garden), and a large meadow ringed with mature trees that makes an excellent habitat for birds.

I grew up near the Greenhouse, yet during my visit I learned a lot of new things about it. Chief among these was the fact that the

Greenhouse property immediately adjoins an "Important Bird Area," or "IBA." IBAs are part of an international network of areas that are important to the survival of migratory birds. This network was created by a European-based organization, Birdlife International. Audubon is the Birdlife partner responsible for designating and protecting IBAs in the United States.

The Greenhouse sits next to one of 63 IBAs that Audubon has designated in Ohio. Specifically, it is next to the "Doan Brook/Dike 14 IBA," a key migratory corridor that connects the coast of Lake Erie with the upland Shaker Lakes on the western edge of the Appalachian Plateau. In practical terms this means that a lot of interesting birds pass through the area, with many species nesting in it. This in turn creates an opportunity for children in Glenville to explore an important natural area right near where they live.

From what I saw of the camp, Audubon Ohio is taking full advantage of the location of the Greenhouse and the convergence of a central city neighborhood with an interesting natural area. During the first four weeks of the camp, children walked the Greenhouse grounds and the surrounding neighborhood with Audubon instructors who taught them how to identify birds both by sight and by sound. Audubon also took advantage of the plant life inside and outside of the Greenhouse to teach the children about what plants they could grow in their neighborhood and how the birds of the neighborhood would both help the plants survive by eating pests and, in turn, benefit themselves from the seeds and berries produced by the plants.

During my visit the children showed off the knowledge that they had picked up in only a few weeks. They explained to me the concept of "field marks" of birds and how I could use field marks to distinguish different species. They identified the various body parts of birds and explained how I could distinguish the sexes of different species, such as the Northern Cardinal. They told me what kind of food birds could find around the neighborhood and how people could help birds by supplying this food. And they explained how to protect birds from man-made threats, such as plastic "six pack" holders that, they said, I needed to cut up so that birds would not get their necks stuck in them and choke.

Beyond the knowledge and conservation values that the children were displaying, I was impressed by the passion with which the children were discussing the birds and plants of their neighborhood. I kept having to remind myself that these children were all less than 12 years old, some as young as eight had no previous interest in birds, let alone experience in identifying them. These children were learning complex fundamental scientific techniques, including observation, distinction, grouping by similarities, understanding food chains and identifying threats and barriers. Introducing children to birds and plants was a great way of teaching them science by drawing on children's inherent desire to explore and understand the natural world around them.

Cleveland is blessed with a number of outstanding institutions that have offered nature-based education to children over the years. These include our fabulous Metro Parks network as well as stand-alone institutions such as The Nature Center at Shaker Lakes, the Lake Erie Nature and Science Center and the